GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1152
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004
RELICS OF JAIN AND BUDDHA IN JHARKHAND
Marandi Shri Babu Lal

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has admitted that there are relics of the Jain and Buddha religion in Itakhori (Hazaribagh district) in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the time by which the excavation work is likely to be started there;

(c) whether the Government is contemplating a plan to develop it as an important tourist spot for the followers of the Buddha and the Jain religions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) The Archaeological Survey of India has inspected the site of Itakhori, Distt. Hazaribagh in Jharkhand, and found a temple site with sculptural remains of Jain, Buddhist and Brahmanical affiliation.

(b) (c)& (d) The Archaeological Survey of India is not contemplating excavation at the site at this stage, nor has it formulated any plan for developing the site as a tourist spot for the followers of Buddhism and Jainism. The site is not under the protection of Archaeological Survey of India.